REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 12-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended, claims 12-16 are added, and claims 2 and 10 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in, for example, canceled claim 2. Support for new claim 12 can be found in for example, claim 1 and canceled claim 10. Support for new claims 13-16 can be found in, for example, current claims 4, 5, 7 and 9. No new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims in view of at least the following remarks.

I. <u>Telephone Interview</u>

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Lee in the March 13 telephone interview and the previous January 10 telephone interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interviews is incorporated into the following remarks. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that the addition of a new claim to compensate for the incorporation of two indicated, allowable claims and the addition new claims to reflect the pending dependent claims would be entered after the Final Rejection and would not require the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.

II. 37 CFR §1.116

As agreed during the March 13 telephone interview, entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments incorporate allowable subject matter; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response

to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2 and 10.

IV. Rejection Under §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as having been obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,039,579 to Kinoshita in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0132315 to Nau et al. (hereinafter "Nau"). Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2, and thus the rejection with respect to claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom (i.e., claims 4, 5, 7, and 9) is now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

As previously discussed in the February 27, 2012 Request for Reconsideration After Final Rejection and as agreed in the January 10 telephone interview, claims 2 and 10 are improperly rejected over Kinoshita and Nau (on page 2 of the Office Action). The Examiner agreed that the rejection of these claims was merely a typographical error. Thus, the Examiner meant to only reject claims 1, 4, 5, 7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and not claims 2 and 10.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:MQW/cfr

Date: March 23, 2012

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